

REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action dated August 16, 2010, claims 1-21 were pending in this application. In this Amendment, claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 21 have been amended, claims 1-3, 5, 10-13, and 16-20 cancelled, without prejudice, reserving right to prosecution in a continuation/divisional application, and new claims 21-27 added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Specifically, new claims 22 and 23 have been prepared based on, for example, claims 1, 2, 3, and 5, and Fig. 3 (e.g., cross-eye view method arrangement and parallel view method arrangement); new claims 24 and 25 have been prepared based on claims 10-13; and new claim 26 has been prepared based on claim 10. Claims 4, 6, 8, and 9 have been amended to be dependent on independent claim 22 or 23, and claims 14, 15, and 21 have been amended to be dependent on independent claim 24 or 25.

Claims 4, 6-9, 14, 15, and 21-27 are now active in this application, of which claims 22-27 are independent.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

The following rejections have been imposed on claims 1-21 at the time of the Office Action dated August 16, 2010:

1. the rejection of claim 1, 5, 6, 8-11, 13-17, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takemoto et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0048354, hereinafter "Takemoto"),
2. the rejection of claims 3, 4, 7, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takemoto.
3. the rejection of claims 2 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takemoto and in further view of Tahara et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,671,323, hereinafter "Tahara").

4. the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takemoto in view of Suzuki et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0012425, hereinafter “Suzuki”).

Since the previous independent claims have been canceled, Applicants will discuss patentability of new independent claims 22-27.

Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic vision-use image providing method including all the limitations as recited in independent claims 22 and 23, and a stereoscopic image display apparatus including all the limitations as recited in independent claims 24-27.

Independent claims 22 and 25

With respect to independent claim 22, the references do not disclose or suggest, among other things, that “the order-of-priority information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information,” recited in the claim.

In relation to previous claim 2, the Examiner asserted as follow (the first full paragraph on page 12 of the Office Action).:

Takemoto et al disclose: order-of-priority information indicating an order-of-priority of the selected viewpoint numbers, together with the two-dimensional image data [p0240, p0282-p0285 (A start position is considered an order of priority information.)]. In the same field of endeavor, Tahara et al include picture order information as part of data ID in [fig. 15].

However, Takemoto’s start position and Tahara’s ID do not specify order of two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information. That is, neither Takemoto nor Tahara teaches the claimed “order-of-priority information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information [indicating in what manner the two-dimensional image data selected by the information for selecting is to be displayed].” No relationship between the order-of-priority information and the display-manner information is taught by Takemoto and Tahara, as well as Suzuki.

Based on the foregoing, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic vision-use image providing method including all the limitations as recited in independent claim 22. The above discussion is applicable to independent claim 25 at least because the claim includes limitations similar to the above-discussed limitations of claim 22. Accordingly, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus including all the limitations as recited in independent claim 25.

Independent claim 23

Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not disclose or suggest, among other things, that “the viewpoint-number information arranged in order of priority specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information,” recited in the claim.

To reject previous claim 3, the Examiner asserted that “Takemoto et al teach order of priority of viewpoint in [p0240, p0282-p0285 (Identifying a start position for displaying image is considered as arranging images in priority order.)]” (the first full paragraph on page 9 of the Office Action).

As discussed above, Takemoto’s start position is not arranged in order of priority to specify order of two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information. Nor do Tahara and Suzuki teaches the claimed viewpoint-number information. Accordingly, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not teach, among other things, the viewpoint-number information arranged in order of priority specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information” as claimed.

Based on the foregoing, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic vision-use image providing method including all the limitations as recited in independent claim 23.

Independent claim 24

Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not disclose or suggest, among other things, that “the order of alignment of the viewpoint-number information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information,” recited in the claim.

According to Applicants’ study of the references, none of Takemoto, Tahara and Suzuki teaches that the order of alignment of the viewpoint-number information specifies order of image data selected based on the display-manner information. Accordingly, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not teach the claimed limitations “the order of alignment of the viewpoint-number information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information.”

Based on the foregoing, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus including all the limitations as recited in independent claim 24.

Independent claim 26

Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not disclose or suggest, among other things, that “the order-of-priority information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the purpose-of-use information,” recited in the claim.

Takemoto’s start position and Tahara’s ID do not specify order of two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the display-manner information. Nor does Suzuki teaches the claimed limitations. Accordingly, these references do not teach that “the order-of-

priority information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the purpose-of-use information [indicating for what purposes the two-dimensional image data selected by the information for selecting is to be used],” as claimed.

Based on the foregoing, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus including all the limitations as recited in independent claim 26.

Independent claim 27

Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not disclose or suggest, among other things, that “the order of alignment of the viewpoint-number information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the purpose-of-use information,” recited in the claim.

According to Applicants’ study of the references, none of Takemoto, Tahara and Suzuki teaches that the order of alignment of the viewpoint-number information specifies order of image data selected based on the purpose-of-use information. Accordingly, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki do not teach the claimed limitations “the order of alignment of the viewpoint-number information specifies order of the two or more two-dimensional image data selected based on the purpose-of-use information [indicating for what purposes the two-dimensional image data selected by the information for selecting is to be used]” as claimed.

Based on the foregoing, Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus including all the limitations as recited in independent claim 27.

Dependent claims

Dependent claims 4, 6-9, 12, 14, 15, and 17-21 are also patentably distinguishable over Takemoto, Tahara, and Suzuki at least because these claims recite all the limitations recited in independent claims 22, 23, 23, and 25, respectively.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of the previous claims and favorable consideration of the currently pending claims.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application should be allowed and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite the prosecution of the application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Tomoki Tanida
Registration No. 60,453

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 TT:MWE
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: December 16, 2010

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